

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A face plate apparatus ~~for covering the drive and port interfaces of a computer, the apparatus~~ comprising:
 - a cover plate for concealing a plurality of interfaces for drives of different sizes of a computer while in a closed position, the cover plate including a window that allows access to a subset of the drives in the closed position, the cover plate further openable from the closed position to allow access to all of the drives concealed in the closed position;
 - a drive door for covering the window in the cover plate through which a drive interface can be accessed while the cover plate is in a closed position; and
 - a mechanism for securing the cover plate to a computer chassis.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the mechanism is configured to allow rotation of the cover plate, the apparatus further comprising a set of engaged gears coupled to the mechanism for slowing rotation ~~to slow the open/close mechanism of the cover plate.~~
4. (Current amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~one of the slotted panel, cover plate is, and drive door are substantially~~ opaque.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of interfaces comprise an interface for a 3 ½-inch drive and an interface for a 5 ¼-inch drive.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the drive door, while in a closed position, is configured to conceal an interface for a 5 ¼-inch drive.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
a second cover plate for concealing a plurality of port interfaces of a computer while in a closed position.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the mechanism is configured to rotatably couple the cover plate ~~is secured~~ to a computer chassis so that the cover plate can ~~and is further configured to~~ rotate around an axis parallel to ~~the front~~ a front panel of the computer chassis.

9. (Currently amended) The apparatus panel of claim 6, ~~wherein the computer chassis comprises a small form factor computer chassis~~, further comprising:
a second cover plate for concealing a plurality of interfaces for ports of a computer while in a closed position.

10. (New) A computer system comprising:
a chassis having a front panel and configured to house a plurality of computer drives and port interfaces, the front panel including one or more openings to allow access to the computer drives and the port interfaces in the chassis;
a top cover plate rotatably coupled to the front panel of the chassis, the top cover plate moveable to a closed position to cover a portion of the front panel corresponding to the computer drives, and moveable to an open position to allow access to the portion of the front panel corresponding to the computer drives, the top cover plate further including a window corresponding to a portion of the front panel corresponding to one of the computer drives in the chassis; and
a bottom cover plate rotatably coupled to the front panel of the chassis, the bottom cover plate moveable to a closed position to cover a portion of the front panel corresponding to the port interfaces, and moveable to an open position to allow access to the portion of the front panel corresponding to the port interfaces.

11. (New) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the top cover plate and bottom cover plate are configured to rotate about parallel axes.

12. (New) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the top cover plate is coupled to the chassis by a gear that tends to slow rotation of the top cover plate between the closed and open positions.

13. (New) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the top cover plate is coupled to the chassis by a spring member that tends to move the top cover plate into the open position.

14. (New) The computer system of claim 13, wherein the top cover plate is detachably coupled to the chassis in the closed position by a locking mechanism.

15. (New) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the top cover plate includes a drive door that is openable to allow access to a computer drive through the top cover plate when the top cover plate is in the closed position.

16. (New) A computer system comprising:
a plurality of computer drives;
a chassis configured to house the computer drives;
a cover plate coupled to the chassis and moveable to cover at least some of the computer drives and further moveable to allow access to the covered computer drives, the cover plate including a window through which at least one of the computer drives is accessible; and
a door for covering the window of the cover plate.

17. (New) The computer system of claim 16, wherein the cover plate is rotatably coupled to the chassis.

18. (New) The computer system of claim 17, further comprising:
a spring coupled between the chassis and cover plate and configured to rotate the cover plate away from the chassis; and

a locking mechanism configured to detachably attach the cover plate to the chassis in a position in which the cover plate covers at least some of the computer drives.

19. (New) The computer system of claim 16, wherein the chassis is further configured to house one or more port interfaces, and access to the port interfaces is through the panel of the chassis, wherein the computer system further comprises a second cover plate coupled to the chassis and moveable to cover the port interfaces and further moveable to allow access to the port interfaces.

20. (New) The computer system of claim 16, wherein the window of the cover plate allows access of a 5 ¼-inch drive.

21. (New) The computer system of claim 16, wherein the window of the cover plate allows access of a CD or DVD drive.